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US EPA JONES ROAD SUPERFUND GROUND WATER PLUME

SUPERFUND SITE

Public Meeting

Bleyl Middle School, 10800 Mills Road

Houston, Harris County, Texas

AUGUST 10, 2017

6:36 p.m. to 8:07 p.m.

A P P E A R A N C E S

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P U B L I C M E E T I N G

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(Public meeting commenced at 6:36 p.m.)

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MR. WALTERS: So the first thing,
welcome this evening to an EPA public meeting in
cooperation with our other partners, the State and
the other partners, to discuss specifically the Jones
Road Superfund Site here in the community. That's
the purpose of this evening's meeting.

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I do want to mention, if you haven't
signed in, make sure you do sign in. And for you we
have copies of the facts sheet on the back table, a
whole stack of fact sheets actually, so please get
one. And there were several copies of the proposed
plan back there. I'm not sure. Those all may be
gone by now.

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19

Okay. Let's kind of go around and see
who's here. First of all, could our EPA site team
please introduce yourselves.

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23

John, you want to start?

MR. MEYER: Sure. I'm John Meyer.

I'm the Chief of the Superfund Remedial Branch at the
EPA office in Dallas.

24

25

MS. HUENI: And I'm Camille Hueni.
I'm the Remedial Project Manager for Jones Road out

1 of the Dallas office.

2 MS. JOSIAM: And I'm Raji Josiam. I'm
3 also Remedial Project Manager, and I will be moving
4 into the Jones Road site.

5 MR. WALTERS: And who is here from
6 TCEQ?

7 MS. LONG: I'm Marilyn Long. I'm TCEQ
8 Superfund Section, Austin.

9 MR. WALTERS: Do we have any other
10 Federal Government guests? Anyone else here from
11 Federal?

12 And how about from the State? Who's
13 here from the State? Other State agencies? Harris
14 County. I know there's someone here from Harris
15 County.

16 MR. MULLER: Stuart Muller.

17 MR. WALTERS: Go ahead and introduce
18 yourself, Stuart.

19 MR. MULLER: Harris County Pollution
20 Control.

21 MR. WALTERS: Yeah, very good. Anyone
22 else from Harris County?

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We couldn't
24 hear that. Could you repeat who that was?

25 MR. MULLER: Stuart Muller from Harris

1 County Pollution Control.

2 MR. WALTERS: So again, the purpose of
3 this evening's meeting is to discuss the Jones Road
4 Superfund Site here in the Cypress area of northwest
5 Houston. We will be taking comments on the site.
6 And to do that we are required to have a court
7 reporter, who is right here in the front. She will
8 be creating a transcript for us of what you say, and
9 how we respond to that.

10 I would ask you to limit your comments
11 to three to four minutes at most, so we can make sure
12 to get everyone in. If there's time, we'll come
13 back. But try to limit your comments to three to
14 four minutes starting out, and of course, our site
15 team is here to respond to those questions or
16 comments.

17 And you can also email your comments
18 to us. The email addresses are on the facts sheet
19 and so forth, and a lot of people use email. So if
20 you want to think about something and email us, the
21 email addresses are there for you to use.

22 Let's see, anything else? I will say,
23 and I should have said it up front, we thank the
24 school here, the middle school, for hosting us and
25 letting use this really nice facility. So we thank

1 them for doing that. I see one of the instructors
2 back there in the back.

3 As some of you know we had a number of
4 these meetings over in the Matzke Elementary School
5 starting out, so I see some familiar faces from those
6 meetings. So we're glad you're still following all
7 of this.

8 So let's get started. Camille is
9 going to give her talk and kind of tell you what's
10 going on, a good outline. We will start a comment
11 period after that.

12 MS. HUENI: Thank you.

13 Everybody, we welcome you, and I'm
14 happy that you're able to turn out in this hot
15 weather and muggy weather. And we really appreciate
16 you wanting to be involved in this.

17 So let's go ahead and get started.
18 Let me have Slide 1. Okay. This is just an
19 orientation, of course, of this area again. And I
20 know that y'all are already familiar with it, but I
21 wanted to point out also -- Where's my pointer? Oh,
22 here it is.

23 The thing I wanted to show here, what
24 the actions that we're going to be recommending
25 tonight are really concentrated in an area right

1 around the zone of the initial release. So it's --
2 it will be a very small footprint.

3 And the release area was here at Bell
4 Cleaners. They operated for about 14 years, ending
5 in 2002. And like a lot of dry cleaners that use
6 tetrachloroethene, that was the case here, and they
7 had a release. So that was what really started all
8 of this.

9 Our purpose here at Jones Road is
10 really groundwater action. So most everything that
11 we do now is actually considering impact to
12 groundwater and working to remediate that.

13 Next slide. I do want to emphasize
14 too, the work that has been completed out here. Most
15 of you are aware of the fact that we completed a
16 waterline in 2008 within this area. And again, that
17 was for the purpose of getting people onto a public
18 water supply system. And so we were able to connect
19 to 144 residences at that time.

20 The initial Record of Decision came
21 out in 2010, and that was -- you know, that's the
22 main document for us. What we're here for tonight is
23 actually to amend that ROD for two target zones, two
24 soil zones that are acting as sources to groundwater.

25 2011, we plugged and abandoned 94

1 residential wells for those people who actually hook
2 up to the water system. And in 2016, we actually
3 began work for restoration of the shallow water
4 bearing zone.

5 And if you have a chance to look at
6 the facts sheet and the proposed plan, that's the
7 very first aquifer -- little aquifer that we deal
8 with, but it's actually very shallow. And we started
9 injection of the -- movement on that in January of
10 2016. So that's ongoing.

11 Okay, next slide. Okay. This is, you
12 know, just another map that's more for reference, and
13 this gives you an idea of the area. This area here
14 (indicating) is actually the release area, right here
15 on Jones Road and Bleyl Lane.

16 And the other thing I wanted to point
17 out is the water connection area that was done in
18 2008. Okay.

19 MR. MANNINA: I've got a question on
20 the previous slide. It showed 96 wells that were
21 capped, and you also showed 144 homes that had water
22 connections.

23 MS. HUENI: Yes.

24 MR. MANNINA: Why aren't those wells
25 that were part of that 144 not capped?

1 MS. HUENI: You know --

2 MR. MANNINA: (Inaudible.)

3 MS. HUENI: You know, that was part of
4 the arrangement for the water connections. And I
5 don't know. Marilyn may have -- you were here at
6 that time, so...

7 MS. LONG: I didn't hear all the
8 question. If you can repeat it, please.

9 MS. HUENI: Let me give you the
10 microphone so everyone can hear.

11 MR. MANNINA: My name is Joe Mannina.

12 My question was: They plugged 96
13 wells, but you provided 144 waterlines. So my
14 question was: Why did they only plug 96 wells? Why
15 weren't all 144 plugged?

16 MS. LONG: That's a good question.
17 Because part of the agreement when the folks agreed
18 to sign up for the -- It's a good question because
19 when there was the agreement set up for the waterline
20 agreement, the connection also required from White
21 Oak Bend, the service provider, would be that the
22 wells would be plugged.

23 I hadn't seen the statistics on, you
24 know, that differential. That's something that I
25 could work and coordinate with EPA, and we could

1 check with White Oak Bend on the numbers to make
2 certain on that.

3 MR. MANNINA: I'd like to know why
4 that wasn't done.

5 MS. LONG: Yes, yes. I can work with
6 you and follow up on that.

7 MS. HUENI: Some of those wells, I
8 think -- some of the properties, if I remember from
9 reading some of that material within that time, there
10 were some properties that actually shared wells and
11 that may be part of it. But that's a good question,
12 and we'll find out about that.

13 Okay. Again, the purpose of the
14 meeting is really to receive your comments on the
15 proposed plan of remedy amendment. And again, we're
16 taking comments at this meeting or questions.

17 And then, we'll also be continuing to
18 take your comments during the public comment period.
19 I don't know if we mentioned that. But that started
20 August the 7th.

21 MR. WALTERS: August the 7th through
22 September the 5th.

23 MS. HUENI: So we'll be taking those,
24 either in writing or email. And all that information
25 is on either the larger proposed plan or the facts

1 sheet.

2 The one thing to know about this one
3 action that's being proposed: It revises the
4 original action for the shallow area sources for
5 in-situ enhancement or treatment that was selected at
6 the time to another alternative, soil vapor
7 extraction, which we think is going to be much more
8 effective. We actually did a pilot test on that in
9 2016, so we know that's going to work.

10 And at the time the ROD was done, we
11 were aware that there was a zone that was unsaturated
12 from about 60 feet to 110 feet below surface. It's
13 right on top of the deep Chicot Aquifer, and it is
14 unsaturated. And so in our design phase, we were out
15 there doing some pilot testing and some more work and
16 we found that that zone also carries a pretty good
17 soil vapor decontaminate zone.

18 So we have two sources here that we're
19 dealing with tonight. Now, overall for the project,
20 we will be addressing three of those zones that we
21 think are the source areas for underlying
22 groundwater. The shallow water bearing zone also
23 acts as a source.

24 That one is under the remediation
25 right now.

1 These two soil zones with the soil
2 vapor phase contamination, those are the remaining
3 two. So we'll be addressing those with this
4 preferred alternative.

5 So again, all this is about is
6 actually completing the elimination of the sources
7 for the underlying groundwater. And we were talking
8 in our office the other day and, you know, someone
9 said this -- and it's kind of common sense when you
10 think about it -- but you can't restore groundwater,
11 which was the original directive of the original ROD,
12 unless you eliminate or substantially reduce the
13 sources of contaminants to groundwater, and that's
14 what we're doing here.

15 Okay. I think -- I like this slide.
16 This is kind of fun. Okay. Here's the point of the
17 initial release of the shopping center. Most of what
18 we're finding, the mass is more or less around the
19 northwest corner of that building, you know, where
20 the dry cleaners was located. And right under that
21 there is a shallow clay zone that holds a lot of the
22 mass for soil vapor, and that's one of the sources
23 that we're going after right now. This area right
24 here.

25 The next zone, this is a shallow water

1 bearing zone which is ongoing. We are actually
2 addressing that right now.

3 And then next you have this zone from
4 about 60 feet -- right here. This is the unsaturated
5 Chicot -- 60 feet to 110. And this is one that is
6 the new area that we're going after also, and also
7 going to be proposed for a soil vapor extraction.

8 So that kind of tells you where we are
9 with the relationship to the release zone and the
10 underlying groundwater. And the saturated
11 groundwater in the Chicot is located starting at
12 110 feet deep. So that's the area that a lot of
13 private wells were completed in, as you're aware of.

14 Okay. Just very simply again, this is
15 a ROD amendment. And the reason we're doing this is
16 we did find, as we indicated, additional sources of
17 contamination there in that lower zone and the
18 original technology that we had selected for the
19 shallow source area soil, that one was just not going
20 to be feasible for the cleanup. So that's the whole
21 reason we're here tonight.

22 And I like this slide too. This slide
23 tells the whole story. This is an overlay of both
24 the shallow zone and the underlying deeper zone. And
25 the core of the contamination is right here. You can

1 see this is Jones Road, and the core is right here.

2 So what this tells us too is that we
3 have the shallow zone we're going after, the same
4 core, and then deeper this is the extent of the soil
5 vapor zone that we're going after.

6 So that -- that is the extent of what
7 we're going to be treating through soil vapor
8 extraction. So it's going to be a very limited
9 construction. We think for both zones we can
10 complete the construction of the design in about a
11 month. And potentially we think that the clean up
12 time for each of those zones is going to be from two
13 to two and a half years, which, you know, compared to
14 other technologies is very short term.

15 So we had a question from one of the
16 neighbors in the area who had a question, you know,
17 is this going to impact me? I think he lived off of
18 Jones Road north of this area. And really our
19 construction footprint is really tied to that
20 immediate area of release, so we're not expecting a
21 whole lot of disruption, and our construction time is
22 going to be very short.

23 Okay. This is just a reminder again
24 about the schedule. The public comment period
25 August the 7th through September -- I'm sorry.

1 August the 7th through September the 5th. So, sorry
2 about that. We want to be able to make our final
3 decision on this part of the project by the end of
4 September.

5 So there's a process that we have to
6 go through to address comments. There'll be -- part
7 of the final ROD, there'll be a responsiveness part
8 at the back where we respond to the comments, and
9 they're considered in our final action. So there's a
10 lot to do between now and then, but it's all doable.
11 So again, we're aiming for the end of September.

12 Our project construction, which will
13 include design as well as the construction, right now
14 we're estimating starting that, probably, in October
15 of 2017, and actually ending construction in
16 December 2018. So it will go fairly quickly. And I
17 think that is it. Is that it, Raji?

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Define
19 construction.

20 MS. HUENI: Well, construction on
21 this, what we'll do is we'll go through our remedial
22 design phase where you -- and we had the pilot test
23 for both of the zones that really will tell us what
24 the spacing of the wells will be. We have a pretty
25 good idea of that already. So your design phase can

1 last up to a year. I think ours could be even
2 shorter.

3 And then remember, once we go to
4 construction, and we'll be going to a construction
5 contract for that. That's all part of it. And once
6 we start construction, it will be completed in
7 probably a month. So that's pretty short.

8 At this time we're thinking about
9 possible phasing the two zones separately, but all of
10 that is going to be decided during our design phase.

11 MS. HAUS: Loral Haus, L-O-R-A-L,
12 H-A-U-S.

13 I don't understand construction as
14 relates to like how you construct a house or home.

15 MS. HUENI: For both of these zones
16 we're going to be using soil vapor extraction wells,
17 and so we already have an idea of what the spacing of
18 that is going to be. I think we brought a couple of
19 posters that have the conceptual design of what we're
20 looking at now.

21 We'll have to connect those wells
22 because as you extract the soil vapor, you want to
23 carry it over to the treatment plant where it will be
24 treated, and so there's some piping involved with
25 that. It's not -- you're not going to see us, you

1 know, digging up the whole parking lot. Most of the
2 infrastructure is going to be the wells themselves.
3 So it's pretty straightforward.

4 So does that answer your question?

5 MS. HAUS: Then the construction is
6 the well?

7 MS. HUENI: Well, construction is when
8 you're actually -- when you're getting out there and
9 you're actually constructing your design for any site
10 that can be anything. It can be -- As you're
11 probably aware, we do everything from putting in
12 wells and treatment systems, which is what we'll do
13 here. Other sites we do containment cells, or we may
14 do like in-situ stabilization of the other sites.

15 So each one has a different plan
16 that's really specific to that site. But I think for
17 the construction footprint here, it's going to be
18 very minimal. We aren't going to be, you know,
19 bulldozing across.

20 MR. WALTERS: Before we move on to any
21 more questions, I just want to interject one thing.
22 John, did you have any comments that you would like
23 to make here at this point?

24 MR. MEYER: Not at this time.

25 MR. WALTERS: You're okay?

1 I meant to call on you earlier, but
2 okay.

3 This gentleman is next, in the red
4 shirt.

5 MR. HAUS: I'm Donald Haus. Thank you
6 very much. My name is Donald Haus. I'm a homeowner
7 in the area, and really appreciate all the extra
8 effort you're giving us to get us the additional
9 education.

10 I'd like to go back to your Figure 5,
11 which shows an approximate location -- yes, this
12 one -- of the plume, a red spot. And I have two
13 questions.

14 First, will the equipment be connected
15 to some previously installed equipment located behind
16 this shopping center, which is already there? I
17 don't believe you've removed it.

18 And second, can you make an
19 approximation, just a guess, as to where you're going
20 to put this construction?

21 I'm not upset. I just don't know
22 where it's going.

23 MS. HUENI: Yes. And actually, I can
24 point it out. And we also have a series of posters
25 that probably has that information you're looking

1 for.

2 MR. HAUS: Thank you.

3 MS. HUENI: It has the proposed
4 network of wells and also the network of piping. And
5 I think part of what we're thinking right now is that
6 the treatment center system is going to be back --
7 back off the northeastern corridor, you know, the
8 upper part of the strip. So it will be out of the
9 way and out of sight. It will be in the background.

10 MR. HAUS: Northeast to me is the
11 upper right-hand corner.

12 MS. HUENI: Yeah. That's where we're
13 thinking about.

14 MR. HAUS: It pretty much is on that
15 side of Jones Road, not the Ace Hardware store side
16 of Jones Road?

17 MS. HUENI: Well, over here across
18 Jones Road is the only one that's on that side of
19 Jones Road. But we were talking a little bit earlier
20 about tying that in also, and since we'll be tying it
21 in with the pipeline, it's not very bad. We can
22 either do directional drilling across to and tie it
23 in.

24 It's important we put that in our
25 design because we want to be able to capture this

1 over here.

2 MR. HAUS: It's just going under Jones
3 Road requires y'all's special permit.

4 Thank you very much.

5 MS. HUENI: Okay. Thank you.

6 MS. BONTA: Pam Bonta, B-O-N-T-A.

7 And I'm just curious, since this is a
8 superfund site, and I went and visited the tenant in
9 this building yesterday, and it's an Indian gentleman
10 who has the shop. On the corner it's a cement slab,
11 and from what I understand those vapors can come up
12 through those cement slabs. He doesn't seem to know
13 too much about it.

14 But why are these people allowed to
15 still be in this building? It is harmful to their
16 health, and in time very likely that they could get
17 cancer. Why wouldn't this be a fenced area, and
18 deemed for nobody to enter this? It makes sense to
19 me that, you know, you are cleaning it up, but
20 meanwhile it is a superfund site and people go there.

21 MS. HUENI: You know, that's a good
22 question. Under the initial ROD, we did address
23 vapor intrusion. And, of course, everything we do
24 has a basis in assessing the risk to human health.

25 And we know that that slab has been a

1 barrier for the vapor accumulation, you know, and the
2 soil just below it. So we are watching it very
3 carefully, and we have been doing monitoring, both of
4 the sub-slab and the indoor air.

5 We realize that that can change. So
6 that's something that we've been including in our
7 monitoring. And we just recently did another indoor
8 air sampling, and we'll be getting those results back
9 pretty quickly. So we are watching that, and we are
10 aware of that.

11 MS. BONTA: Because it's not worth his
12 life, right?

13 MS. HUENI: No, no.

14 MS. BONTA: Or anybody's?

15 MS. HUENI: No. We want to be
16 responsive to that. So right now the levels are
17 below what we would consider a threshold, but that
18 can change.

19 MR. WALTERS: Again, come up to the
20 mic so that everybody can hear what you have to say.

21 MR. PELLEGRINO: My name is Dan
22 Pellegrino.

23 When you get the construction phase
24 done and you have all your wells installed and you're
25 extracting vapor, does that mean you're just strictly

1 putting a vacuum on it, or are you extracting
2 material, or are you extracting water?

3 MS. HUENI: You know, it's primarily
4 vapor. There is -- the upper zone, we -- based on
5 the pilot, we are expecting to get some water also
6 being extracted, and that will all be treated and
7 handled through the treatment system.

8 So now the lower zone, it's pretty
9 much going to be just vapor, but we are going to have
10 a little bit of water or some water that we're going
11 to have to deal with in our treatment system.

12 MR. PELLEGRINO: Once it's treated,
13 does it go back into the ground?

14 MS. HUENI: You know what, I think the
15 way -- I think we're looking at it right now that --
16 I think one of our options is injection; is that
17 correct?

18 MR. PELLEGRINO: Injecting it back
19 into the ground once it's treated?

20 MS. HUENI: Uh-huh.

21 MR. PELLEGRINO: Okay. Thanks.

22 MS. HUENI: Okay.

23 MR. MUSTERS: Marc Musters. I have a
24 couple questions. You're saying you're currently
25 doing something in the shallow clay zone. What are

1 you exactly doing currently to remediate the shallow
2 clay zone?

3 MS. HUENI: Well, we're actually not
4 in the clay zone yet. We're actually in the shallow
5 water bearing zone.

6 And what we're doing in that is in
7 January we started the in-situ bioremediation there.
8 So we did our initial injection in that zone. And
9 that was confined pretty much that to entire parking
10 lot area. And so we've been doing monitoring since
11 then to see how the contaminants are degrading. So
12 of course we're looking for, you know, PCE to
13 actually degrade but also the daughter product that
14 will come off of that too. So that's a work in
15 progress.

16 We all want to see a lot of
17 degradation, but we want to make sure it will be
18 carried all the way through to completion. So part
19 of that process is we have to continue to monitor and
20 evaluating the monitoring, the results that we get.

21 And, you know, for things like that
22 it's not unheard of to actually maybe have to do
23 another injection, but a smaller one. It would be
24 very focused to, I guess, the residual that's left.
25 So it's more of a longer-term project, but it's not

1 going to be -- We've been looking at it for the past
2 year and a half, but that's not out of the ordinary.

3 MR. MUSTERS: We've been looking at it
4 for 14 years.

5 The well sampling, are you doing any
6 well sampling outside of the immediate zone?

7 MS. HUENI: Yes, we are. We just got
8 through with a round of sampling. Most of the wells
9 that we have on site -- the important thing for us is
10 we put in four deep wells, CMT wells, which is each
11 well actually contains up to six or seven tubing
12 sampling ports through additional tubes. So you can
13 really get a lot, sample a lot for intervals and get
14 a lot of information for just one bore hole.

15 So we put a couple of those more to
16 the south where we had our southmost well, and one
17 off toward the southwest area.

18 MR. MUSTERS: How come you're not
19 putting those monitoring results on the website?

20 MS. HUENI: Well, we will. In fact,
21 we were talking earlier about the next time we get
22 together is going to be a public information meeting.
23 Because we've been doing monitoring. There's a lot
24 of pieces we need to pull together for everyone. And
25 we are seeing some interesting results from the

1 groundwater.

2 So give us a few more months to pull
3 that together, and then we will start posting it. We
4 just need to tie it together in a report, and just
5 make sure that when we come, we can answer your
6 questions.

7 MR. MUSTERS: So on the vacuuming of
8 the area, my experience with vacuuming is once you
9 establish a certain level of vacuum that the air
10 movement diminishes greatly. And it would make a lot
11 more sense to me to inject air in a central spot to
12 move more of that air through the zone and to speed
13 up the whole process of the vaporization removal.

14 On the treatment plant that you're
15 going to put in to treat the air that you're pulling
16 out, what exactly is that treatment plant going to
17 do?

18 MS. HUENI: Well, you know, we don't
19 have that yet. That comes out in your design phase.
20 So if you want more information about that, we can
21 talk about that as we get deeper into that.

22 Right now we just don't have the
23 details on what that would look like. We just know
24 that we'll have the wells. We'll have the piping
25 tying it together and going to the treatment system.

1 But as far as those particular design details, that
2 will be coming later, and we can share that with you
3 guys.

4 MR. MUSTERS: All right. Thank you.

5 MS. HUENI: Okay. Thank you.

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So the aquifers
7 travel from the north to the southeast. Have you
8 thought about doing any sampling to the north because
9 of the fact that it's known that aquifers can subside
10 back that way? Have you thought about doing any
11 sampling to the north?

12 MS. HUENI: We do have some -- we do
13 have some wells north of the site, and we have
14 included those, I think, in the last couple of
15 rounds, so we'll have that information. Most of what
16 we're getting though is actually downgrading of the
17 site, so as you would expect.

18 I know sometimes if you have a dense
19 non-aqueous phase liquid that you can have some
20 movement up-gradient, but we haven't seen that here.
21 But it's always a good thing to be mindful of.

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah, okay.

23 MS. WOOD: So I'm relatively new to
24 this, and so I have a question. I'm Mary Wood. You
25 talk about removal of the vapors. What about that

1 shallow clay? Are you doing any removal of the soil
2 itself?

3 MS. HUENI: No. As you're aware, we
4 do have a building over that. So whatever we do,
5 we're not going to be taking down the building. But
6 with the soil vapor extraction, and actually we had
7 the pilot test we had in 2016, actually showed that
8 we get a pretty solid communication between the three
9 pilot test wells that we have, and those are just
10 placed at the edge of the building. So we actually
11 know that we are getting communication across, and we
12 have, you know, a pretty good idea of what the area
13 of influence is going to be when we go to design.

14 So we don't want to tear down the
15 building, but we think the SVE approach is really
16 going to give us the best shot at removing a lot of
17 that vapor phase.

18 MS. WOOD: So is this something you're
19 going to have to repeat again in several years?

20 MS. HUENI: Actually, you know, I
21 think of all our technologies, I think SVE, if the
22 conditions are right, it can be the fastest, most
23 effective technology for vapor phase contaminant.

24 MS. WOOD: So if or could. But the
25 question is: Is it going to recontaminate the area,

1 and what is the life span of the PCE?

2 You talk about degrading it. How long
3 does it take? What is the ideal conditions? And how
4 long will it be?

5 MS. HUENI: Well, with the SVE
6 systems, we're not actually -- it's different than
7 what we're looking at with the groundwater, the
8 shallow water zone where we're actually doing in-situ
9 treatment. With the soil vapor extraction, it's
10 usually pretty complete. And when we're implementing
11 that as a treatment technology, we use performance
12 goals.

13 We're looking at, when you're doing
14 the vapor extraction, you reach a point that actually
15 becomes -- that it actually flatlines on how much
16 you're actually getting out. And at that point
17 you're reaching a point -- at that point you're
18 getting to a time where you think, okay, have we
19 gotten everything?

20 But you want to make sure that once
21 you turn the system off, that you're not going to
22 have some kind of rebound effect, so that's also
23 factored in. And before you completely say we're
24 done here, you have to go through a series where
25 you're actually pulsing the system off and on because

1 you want to see how much of that rebound comes into
2 play. And as time goes on, you'll actually see the
3 rebound actually get diminished too. So that means
4 you're really getting to the end of it.

5 And I think for this area, these two
6 soil areas, and the complication that we had with the
7 structure overlying a lot of it, that I think that's
8 the best approach right now that we're doing. And
9 it's a lot less expensive, and it doesn't take that
10 long. It will be a month of construction.

11 MS. WOOD: I understand that it's less
12 expensive. But you know when you're talking about
13 their health and their lives and future, as long as
14 that contaminated soil is sitting over there, are you
15 not going to have a reoccurrence of what you already
16 have?

17 MS. HUENI: I think right now that I
18 think we can say it's going to be effective, and
19 probably that treatment technology is probably the
20 most effective for that kind of situation. So I
21 think it takes it down pretty low.

22 MS. WOOD: Pretty low is -- I don't
23 know if that's acceptable.

24 MS. HUENI: Well, you know, you're
25 trying to get rid of -- if we reduce it

1 substantially, then you start eliminating that source
2 to underlying groundwater. And that's a very
3 important thing that we have to do. So if we had --
4 I really do think that's really the best technology
5 for this area and those zones.

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So dig and haul
7 is not an option? To dig that soil out?

8 MS. HUENI: No. That's not our plan
9 right now because we want to try -- This, I think is
10 going to be effective.

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: But what if the
12 people request it? Because you have a comment
13 period, and if what the people requested that that
14 soil be removed? Would that even be an option?

15 MS. HUENI: You know, we can always
16 consider it. I think when you -- if you have
17 something that's going to work and you can leave the
18 structure there and have it be a permanent fix, then
19 I think you've got to dot the I's and cross the T's
20 without having to tear down somebody's business.

21 MR. HAUS: Thank you. Donald Haus
22 once again. Marilyn, please correct me, my
23 remembrance is that the EPA toleration point was --
24 or perhaps the TCEQ toleration point for putting
25 filters on wells was about five parts per million.

1 MS. LONG: Parts per billion for PCE.

2 MR. HAUS: Billion, for PCE. Thank
3 you.

4 My question then is: When this
5 process is completed is the expectation, and I mean
6 phase one completed, that the water would be
7 contaminated to the point that it is at or below the
8 five parts marker?

9 And I'm not saying everybody should
10 drink it I'm simply using that as a measure of
11 success. Because greater than five parts other
12 activities took place. Below five parts, it did not.

13 Thank you.

14 MS. HUENI: Thank you for your
15 question.

16 You know, our goal here is that we
17 achieve restoration of the aquifer. And for us, what
18 that means is that your concentrations get to the
19 drinking water level or below.

20 MR. WALTERS: This is your chance and
21 opportunity to speak up on this issue.

22 MS. YOUNG: My name is Jackie Young,
23 and I know some of the EPA folks here from working on
24 the east side with San Jancinto Waste Pits. I moved
25 my family to Cypress, just like a few miles from here

1 from the east side because, after all of my research,
2 this was the safest environment that I could find
3 without leaving Houston.

4 And I was happy, you know, back then
5 to see the status of this site, but now I've been a
6 bit concerned. So I want to first say to the people
7 of the community that a big difference here between
8 the site I worked with, we've worked with for the
9 past six years, and the Jones Road site is that you
10 guy's party who is responsible filed bankruptcy, so
11 our government is footing the bill for the cleanup.
12 So you don't have the tug of war that we had at the
13 other site where you have the party responsible, who
14 has an invested interest in this.

15 So I'm very appreciative of going
16 through all of the documents I have for this site and
17 seeing what the EPA has done and what TCEQ have done,
18 going in and providing city infrastructure for safe
19 water. I think that it's very commendable of what
20 the agencies have done.

21 The organization that I founded, Texas
22 Health and Environment Alliance, serves as kind of a
23 third party watchdog for these types of processes.
24 And going through all of the documents, I did not
25 find anything about a community involvement plan or a

1 community advisory committee. And I know that we've
2 already passed the first Record of Decision, but
3 moving forward, it looks like there's about a year
4 and a half of time before you expect to get to the
5 clean point you hope to get to.

6 So between now and then, what do you
7 guys have in place for community involvement? And is
8 there a CAC?

9 MR. WALTERS: I'm just mentioning a
10 couple of things, Jackie. Well, first of all, all
11 sites are different. Every site has a different
12 venue and outlook and scope on what we do and how we
13 approach it.

14 But for this project, I can tell you
15 that we have awarded two different technical
16 assistance grants to the community to study this, and
17 that group has since, as I understand it, they
18 disbanded. But they were quite active here for quite
19 a while. The person who ran it retired. I think she
20 relocated.

21 But there has not been a CAG, so to
22 speak, a Community Advisory Group here. There has
23 not been a request for that. Not all sites want a
24 CAG. But that's something that we can -- you know,
25 the agency can entertain moving forward if that's

1 necessary. And the RPMs can help advise us on that
2 if necessary or needed.

3 MS. YOUNG: So the questions I've
4 heard today are excellent and I think that the
5 community members are sincerely concerned, and we
6 don't all have the same, you know, maybe background
7 in science or skill sets. You know, I couldn't go be
8 a nurse tomorrow.

9 So I think that it would be a good
10 idea, and I would like to request, you know, on
11 behalf of living in the area -- The site is smack
12 between my house and my mom's, so now I'm a resident
13 by this site. So I would like to request that there
14 are, at a minimum, regular meetings, maybe every
15 three months. And whether that's an informational
16 meeting, like you mentioned, when you get back the
17 groundwater data or conclusive dataset, an
18 informational public meeting or a smaller group
19 meeting where you have community leaders attend and
20 then go back to the communities and relay that
21 information.

22 But I definitely would like to see a
23 regular correspondence between agencies and the
24 public over the next year and a half.

25 MS. HUENI: Okay. Well, you know, I

1 think a lot of times, you know, it's very important
2 for us to get your ideas too. So we want to know
3 what's important to you guys. We have so many sites
4 right now, but we have to be responsive to the
5 community that's living here, and we understand that
6 you have a desire to know what's going on in your
7 neighborhood, and that's important to us.

8 So if you want to, you know, with your
9 comments, you can include comments about that, what
10 your suggestions might be, and certainly we'll
11 consider them.

12 I know with the groundwater
13 monitoring, we probably will be probably going to
14 maybe annual or twice a year. So we'll have that
15 information coming in too.

16 And then, let me request something for
17 our sampling too. It would be helpful for us -- I
18 know we have quite a wealth of information on
19 sampling the private wells in the area, and we do
20 have more established monitoring wells. But it would
21 be very helpful for us if we could get -- if we could
22 get more private wells sampled too.

23 And our last sampling, we didn't have
24 a lot of luck with that. So that helps us understand
25 what's going on in the area. And if we need to do

1 more of a formal monitoring network, that may be
2 something that we have to consider. But if we reach
3 out and ask you guys to help us out with letting us
4 sample your private wells, just kind of think about
5 it because it does help the wealth of information
6 that we have to work with and it gives you a better
7 picture too of what's going on with your groundwater.

8 MS. YOUNG: I appreciate offering
9 that, and sometimes you have to pull teeth to get
10 that. And to just put that out there, that's so
11 fantastic.

12 MS. HUENI: It's not easy sometimes,
13 but I thought I would take the opportunity.

14 MS. YOUNG: Yeah. I wanted to ask,
15 you mentioned about the occurrence of sampling the
16 monitoring wells, the groundwater, but how often are
17 your air monitors sampled? And I'm curious about the
18 indoor and the outdoor.

19 MS. HUENI: Well, indoor air, we just
20 did an indoor air sampling of, you know, the sub-slab
21 there at the strip center. And we really wanted to
22 get -- We just finished doing some indoor air and
23 sub-slab sampling there at the strip center there at
24 Cypress Shopping Center. So we're waiting on those
25 results. Those will be coming out like now, but we

1 actually did that.

2 We've been trying to get, you know, a
3 good representation of seasonal sampling because your
4 indoor air, your sub-slab can vary somewhat
5 seasonally. So we wanted to capture that. We didn't
6 really have one that was right in the heart of the
7 summer in the Houston heat, so we have that one
8 coming.

9 I think I lost the thread on the
10 question.

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: How often?

12 MS. HUENI: Oh, how often. With the
13 indoor air, we'll probably be going out there -- if
14 we're seeing changes in trends, we'll be going out
15 there probably twice a year to sample. If it's, you
16 know, stabilizing, maybe once a year. We'll just
17 have to see. So we're always looking at those kinds
18 of questions as we get the data back.

19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No outdoor air
20 sampling?

21 MS. HUENI: You know, for us it's
22 really the -- even at the area of the release, you
23 know, they do a control point that's like an outdoor
24 sample. But that's more of a standard because you
25 want to compare that to what's going on sub-slab, you

1 know, what's going on with indoor area.

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And I also have
3 one more question. Oh, sorry.

4 MR. MUSTERS: You had talked about
5 wanting to sample more private wells. I don't
6 remember when, but I would say probably around
7 2007-ish, somewhere around in there, is that before
8 that time the TCEQ was monitoring those wells and
9 sampling private wells. Then when either the TCEQ or
10 the EPA came in and put in their own monitoring
11 wells, they quit monitoring and sampling the private
12 wells.

13 So I'm here to tell you I have a
14 private well, and I'd be happy to have you come out
15 and sample it.

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And to give you
17 the results. (Inaudible.) They don't give you the
18 results.

19 MS. HUENI: Well, we will. If we get
20 to sample your well, certainly, we'll give you those
21 results.

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You haven't.
23 And you sampled ours.

24 MS. HUENI: Okay. Well, if you would
25 leave your names with us and your addresses, we'll

1 get those to you.

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you.

3 MS. HUENI: Okay.

4 MS. BONTA: My question was: How are
5 you letting all of the people in the affected area
6 know? Are you going door-to-door? Are you doing
7 mail-outs?

8 Because a lot of times, in my
9 experience, when you send that mail-out, they just
10 think it's junk mail, and they throw it to the side,
11 and they have no idea.

12 So I was just curious: How are you
13 letting the affected wells know?

14 MS. HUENI: Well, I don't know. Those
15 are things that we need think to about. Normally,
16 you know, we send out the general mail to the area.
17 Maybe we need be a little bit more strategic on how
18 we do that. So as we're looking at groundwater,
19 there are several ways of evaluating it, maybe we
20 should identify more of a focused area that we can go
21 after, and maybe that makes more sense.

22 I know that we got a question earlier
23 this week which it helps us because sometimes we
24 don't have the same perspective that y'all do. But
25 we got a call from a man who was very interested in

1 knowing why he'd gotten this mailer. He said, you
2 know, am I impacted? And I said, well -- and he told
3 the regulator, I said, no, I think you're fine.

4 But I said, you know, we do this sort
5 of blanket email, and maybe that's confusing. Maybe
6 we need to get more targeted, and we can think about
7 that.

8 MR. WALTERS: Well, we do have a site
9 mailing list for the site that we continue to add on
10 to. But you know it would be helpful, and if you
11 have a group of name or a list that you all know of
12 all here and send it to us and we can update the
13 mailing list with that. We can do that.

14 MS. BONTA: Then also, is Health
15 Department looking at the health of the people at all
16 that are in this area? Is there cancer clusters? I
17 know for a fact there's a cancer moms group. One
18 particular mom that I know has two children that are
19 about five and eight, and they have leukemia. And in
20 their classroom -- and they live up Jones Road, more
21 towards Grant. And in their classroom they also have
22 several children with leukemia. And for me that kind
23 of raises a red flag. Kind of rare that two kids in
24 one family would both have leukemia.

25 So I'm just curious: Is the Health

1 Department looking into the health of all of these
2 people?

3 MS. HUENI: You know, I think when the
4 site was initially listed, I think the Health
5 Department was involved then. But if you have
6 information you want to share with us, we'll consider
7 it, certainly.

8 MS. BONTA: Okay. Thank you.

9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible.)

10 In reference to the results of the
11 monitoring of the sampling of the wells, is that the
12 way TCEQ used to do that is on their website, they
13 would have a spreadsheet with all of the wells listed
14 and the results from the sampling. So that was
15 readily available to everybody.

16 MS. HUENI: Yeah, we can do that.

17 MR. MEYER: Hey, Camille, I'd like to
18 respond to that. So we cannot, EPA cannot publish
19 private well information. The Federal government
20 cannot publish private well information on the web
21 page broadly. The State has an open records policy
22 and laws that actually they cannot keep it
23 confidential.

24 But EPA laws, the Federal laws are we
25 consider that your private information. It's your

1 property, and it's information about your property.
2 So we will share it with you, the owner, but we
3 cannot share it broadly with the public, certainly
4 without your permission.

5 MS. CARTER: Hi, my name is Jenna
6 Carter. I'm just a resident that's further down
7 Jones. But I was wondering, I read something when
8 this initially happened, one of the news reports
9 about a danger of flooding and how that might
10 contaminate. The areas around this one specific area
11 has seen pretty catastrophic floods within the last
12 couple of years.

13 And so I was wondering if that's a
14 risk? I know Matzke Park is pretty close. So I
15 didn't know, just as a layperson, I'm not really sure
16 what -- I've seen kids like swimming in the flood
17 waters for that area at the superfund site.

18 I want to know who was privy to
19 knowing about this? And I just wonder if that's a
20 risk if there is flooding, like, does that exacerbate
21 the other environmental risks?

22 MS. HUENI: Well, I think for Jones
23 Road that that probably is not a risk. And, you
24 know, a lot of times you look for, if your area is
25 prone to flood, you would be concerned about soil

1 contamination or shallow groundwater that may be
2 feeding into a creek or whatever.

3 We don't really have that here. We've
4 got that little shallow water bearing zone. It's
5 pretty local though, and we don't really -- I'm not
6 aware that it would be an impact in any surface body
7 with flooding.

8 MS. CARTER: No Cypress Creek, or
9 nothing like that?

10 MS. HUENI: I don't think so. I'm not
11 aware of that. But you know, the groundwater that --
12 you know, we have that shallow zone. It's pretty
13 thin too. It's not going to be really a regional
14 zone. So we're addressing it as a source, but most
15 of our concern would be the immediate soil around the
16 building, under the building, and the deeper
17 groundwater.

18 MS. CARTER: Okay. I found out about
19 this meeting by calling my community coordinator
20 because someone posted about that it had increased
21 and they posted this on Nextdoor, like the social
22 networking site for the neighborhood. And so they
23 weren't sure at all about what the width was in
24 Schroeder Oaks Village, in that specific neighborhood
25 or other neighborhoods close by. Is there a risk to

1 the residential -- like people attached to an MUD, do
2 they need to be concerned about the contamination to
3 their water?

4 MS. HUENI: You know, if they're on
5 the public water supply, you should be getting
6 mailers from the MUD reporting about the quality of
7 the water. So if you're connected to the waterline,
8 that's a good thing.

9 MS. CARTER: So this wouldn't be a
10 risk for those?

11 MS. HUENI: Huh-uh.

12 MS. CARTER: Okay. Thank you very
13 much.

14 MS. HUENI: Okay. Last chance.

15 MR. WALTERS: This is your chance to
16 ask questions to us if there's any more concerns or
17 comments you'd like to make.

18 MS. YOUNG: Yes. Jackie Young. And
19 earlier she had asked about the half-life of the
20 contaminant. And I really liked your answer about
21 purging, and how you remove the vapors. But I
22 understood her question more directed toward soil and
23 the concern of it potentially releasing again in
24 other areas, like the site has done in the past.

25 So can you talk a little bit about the

1 contaminants of concern and their affinity in the
2 environment and how they act? Because I think also
3 that would help us understand flooding and the
4 concerns there as well.

5 MS. HUENI: Yeah, I can give that a
6 shot. At this site we know that the initial release
7 was PCE or tetrachloroethene. Now, that is -- and
8 that was probably a single contaminant because that
9 was used with the dry cleaning process. But it
10 actually degrades into TCE, and then 1,2-
11 dichloroethene (DCE), and then it eventually
12 transforms into vinyl chloride.

13 So what's interesting, and we're
14 watching this. We actually see this effect in the
15 vapor phase when we -- when we're doing our sampling
16 was that at the heart of the source, you have your
17 highest concentration of PCE but you're also starting
18 to see TCE, and the other things show up.

19 And in this one area -- I think I've
20 got a map back there that actually shows this -- is
21 that we're showing a little bit of migration a little
22 bit further south, in that one block, so it's still
23 in the immediate area. But we know the process is
24 actually ongoing naturally because we're starting to
25 pick up this other vapor thing that's coming a little

1 bit more south. And it's primarily the degradation
2 products like TCE, and I think even a little bit of
3 vinyl chloride.

4 So that is something that we're aware
5 of, but all the contaminants in that degradation
6 cycle, those are all considered contaminants of
7 concern for the site, and they're listed as that in
8 the ROD.

9 So we're always looking at what's the
10 level of each of those. Not just the PCE, but we
11 want to take it all the way down.

12 Does that help?

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: What is the
14 lifespan of those chemicals?

15 MS. HUENI: I don't really know off
16 the top of my head.

17 MR. MEYER: I'll try. So these type
18 of chlorinated organics really depends on where it's
19 located. If it's sitting out in the sun, it could be
20 minutes or hours. If it's in the soil, it could be
21 years. If it's in the groundwater, it can be years.

22 So it just really depends on where
23 it's located, and what types of things it's being
24 subjected to. These chemicals degrade fairly well.
25 In other words, bacteria will transform them into

1 other chemicals.

2 And that's when Camille talked about
3 the shallow groundwater zone, we're actually able to
4 do an injection of a material that's essentially food
5 for the bacteria that's in the groundwater that gives
6 them a lot -- it grows that bacteria and they can
7 transform the chemicals into harmless chemicals. So
8 it really depends on the environment that it's in.

9 In a vapor phase, again here it's
10 fairly long because it's been there for a long time,
11 right? I mean, this release happened many years ago.
12 So we've determine the best thing to do is to get in
13 there and physically remove that chemical out of the
14 ground, and that's what the soil vapor extraction
15 does. The soil vapor extraction pulls it out safely
16 so we can dispose of it.

17 When it's in the groundwater, we have
18 found that the easiest thing to do is to inject
19 things that allow the groundwater -- the bacteria in
20 the groundwater to transform those chemicals into
21 something safe.

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Has this been
23 treated at all yet?

24 MR. MEYER: Yes. So the shallow water
25 bearing zone, the injection has been started and that

1 degradation is ongoing, and that's good. As we said
2 earlier, our objective for this whole site is to have
3 all of the groundwater in this area be safe to
4 consume.

5 The only way we can do that is to
6 remove the sources of that contamination to the
7 groundwater. So the soil vapor extraction will
8 remove the chemicals in the soil that are acting as a
9 continuing source. The in-situ bioremediation that
10 is already ongoing is degrading the chemicals that
11 are in the subsurface that are going to act as a
12 continuing source of groundwater contamination.

13 But the only way we can get in there
14 and have long-term success at this site is to both
15 degrade the chemicals that are in the groundwater or
16 remove them through the soil vapor extraction.

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: It's been
18 degrading well, and yet you're now showing that it is
19 spreading some of the sub-chemicals?

20 MR. MEYER: The chemicals that are in
21 the groundwater are going to continue to move, and as
22 they move, they do degrade some. So we see natural
23 degradation all the time. And at some point you
24 actually get to a level that they're low enough that
25 what's naturally there can handle it.

1 When it's very high, when the chemical
2 is at a high concentration, what's naturally there in
3 the soil just can't handle it. That's why we have to
4 use the in-situ bioremediation. We add more food for
5 the bacteria that's there, so it can handle these
6 higher concentrations.

7 But what we typically see is that at
8 some point we get it low enough that the natural
9 conditions will degrade these chemicals. So the good
10 news about this type of chemical, it does degrade
11 fairly well but you have to get the highest
12 concentrations out in order for that to occur.

13 MR. MANNINA: My name is Joe Mannina.
14 You might go to Harris County on this particular one.
15 But I noticed on Figure 1 it shows the restricted
16 area for drilling a well has been greatly decreased.
17 Can someone answer that?

18 MS. LONG: The restricted drilling
19 was -- I think it was about 2003/2004?

20 MR. MANNINA: It took up this whole
21 area in the red, and now it's reduced back quite a
22 bit.

23 MS. LONG: Okay. The restricted
24 drilling area came prior to the red boundary. So the
25 yellow was initially done in very early stages, and

1 the boundary was drawn based on the information
2 available at the time. And that restricted drilling
3 boundary was what the State of Texas requested from
4 the Department of Licensing and Regulation and the
5 Water Well Drillers Board, and so that line was
6 defined very early on.

7 Then as you know, and you know too
8 when we did all that expanded sampling on a quarterly
9 basis, we had a better idea of where some of the
10 impacted water wells were. And then subsequently the
11 red boundary, which was the water service boundary
12 and became the site boundary, was expanded but that
13 small restricted drilling area stayed the same.

14 MR. MANNINA: No, that's not correct.

15 MS. LONG: The restricted drilling
16 area is the yellow boundary.

17 MR. MANNINA: I understand. That's
18 not correct. It included the whole area back here
19 all the way up to the back -- well, I'm looking to
20 the north where the red line is. And I know that
21 because I live on one of those streets, and it's no
22 longer a restricted area and it was.

23 MS. LONG: Well, this is the only
24 restricted boundary that I know from --

25 MR. MANNINA: That's not the way it

1 was in Harris County, that's for sure.

2 MS. LONG: But then Harris County
3 passed an ordinance that then mirrors the red
4 boundary. That was a separate action from the State
5 action that defined the restricted drilling.

6 MR. MANNINA: Are what you saying is
7 that the yellow line is for the State only?

8 MS. LONG: The yellow line is what was
9 defined very early on and that was before we had a
10 lot of the additional data.

11 MR. MANNINA: Is that still the
12 boundary, the yellow?

13 MS. LONG: That restricted drilling
14 that's under State jurisdiction has remained the
15 same. Now, Harris County is the one that passed the
16 ordinance that matches our site boundary which is
17 red. So that covers that.

18 So there's an overlap, and then
19 there's some that doesn't cover. You know, the
20 restricted goes further south of the red boundary.
21 It's kind of an offset from the red boundary.

22 MR. MANNINA: The reason I'm asking is
23 because people who still have wells that were in the
24 restricted area, they were told not only could they
25 not redrill the well, they couldn't repair the well.

1 They couldn't just go ahead and pull a pipe out if
2 they had a leak or something that came in there. You
3 couldn't do anything. They basically would have to
4 go on the water system.

5 That's why I'm asking because the way
6 this thing is drawn, it appears like that doesn't
7 apply anymore to several of the areas that are out
8 there.

9 MS. LONG: Well, Harris County, you
10 know, there's a difference between the State and the
11 Harris County regulations. Now, with the restricted
12 drilling, what I do know from the water well drillers
13 group, is that they do not even use the word prohibit
14 in their regulations.

15 They may have more strict construction
16 regulations. If, let's say, you were going to drill
17 deeper, there would have to be more strict drilling
18 and completion protocol.

19 Now, the Harris County ordinance, if I
20 recall correctly, and this is quite a while ago. I
21 haven't worked on the site that much recently. But
22 on the Harris County regulations, they do use the
23 word "prohibit" for drilling.

24 So the difference between the State
25 recommendation and limitations versus the local

1 ordinance that does use the word "prohibit." So
2 there's multiple layers there.

3 MR. MANNINA: Well, it's just a little
4 bit confusing to have a line that says no drilling,
5 and then it doesn't equate with what was there
6 before. That's why I'm concerned about it because
7 it's more than confusing. It seems to me they need
8 to get their act together and make it either no
9 drilling, or it is that you have the right to go
10 ahead and do so.

11 MS. LONG: Well, again, I'm not an
12 attorney, so I'd have difficulty answering on that
13 one.

14 MR. WALTERS: Here's another question.
15 Go ahead and introduce yourself.

16 MS. BHAI: My name is Deborah Bhai.
17 I'm a resident in the area. And I may not understand
18 all of this, but I do have a question on, is there
19 any monitoring that is being done on the injections
20 of what is being, quote/unquote, injected?

21 I may have misunderstood that. But
22 what is being injected to clean up?

23 MS. HUENI: Yes. We actually have
24 quite a few monitoring wells in the immediate area.
25 We actually did the injection on that, basically in

1 the parking lot of where the Cypress Shopping Center
2 is, and I think what we're injecting is -- Can you
3 help me with this, Pat?

4 MR. APPEL: Yes. Back in January of
5 2016, there was a series of 63 bore holes drilled
6 throughout in here and around the back side of the
7 building. An amendment was installed in each of
8 those borings down to the shallow source area which
9 was about 20, 30 feet deep, and so that's the
10 immediate area that was treated, that source area.

11 And the material, like John said, is
12 food basically, to eat that contaminant up.

13 MS. BONTA: What's the technical name
14 of the food?

15 MR. APPEL: The food?

16 MS. BONTA: The food, what is the
17 food?

18 MR. APPEL: It's a proprietary blend
19 that a company created. It's called EHCL. It's an
20 oil-type material that is proprietary, and the
21 vendor's name escapes me, but it's a registered
22 trademark name.

23 So it's biodegradable. It can go into
24 the ground. Basically it enhances the degradation of
25 the volatile organic compounds, this material which

1 is PCE. So it goes through that life cycle process
2 faster, gets rid of it quicker.

3 MS. BHAI: And then what happens to
4 it?

5 MR. APPEL: It goes away. So the
6 source is the soil. That's what's going to be
7 treated in soil vapor extraction. When you treat the
8 ground water and you enhance that process, it goes
9 away into a benign material.

10 MS. BHAI: So it's not a bacteria?

11 MR. APPEL: No. The bacteria eats the
12 volatile organic compounds.

13 MS. BHAI: Right. So if that enhances
14 the bacteria, and if there's too much bacteria and
15 overproduces bacteria, then what happens?

16 MR. APPEL: That's just good bacteria
17 in the ground that keeps eating bad stuff.

18 MS. BHAI: Right. What is the good
19 bacteria?

20 MR. APPEL: That's that proprietary
21 chemical, EHCL.

22 MS. BHAI: What's the name of the good
23 bacteria that you're using?

24 MR. APPEL: It's bacteria. It's
25 bacteria. I guess, it's a --

1 MR. MEYER: So it's a natural microbe
2 that's in the ground. It's all around us. I mean,
3 healthy soil is teeming with microbes. I mean,
4 that's a good thing. So there's all sorts of healthy
5 bacteria in the soil. We know it's there, and then a
6 lot of it will consume these types of chemicals. I
7 mean, that's why the earth regenerates itself many
8 times.

9 So we're just trying to jump start
10 that a little better by adding the food into the
11 system. And what happens is the bacteria will bloom
12 because they have a lot of food. They'll consume
13 this chemical, and then the bacteria die off and
14 become kind of steady state again, what's normal for
15 that system.

16 And so that's kind of what happens in
17 these systems. We add all this food. The bacteria
18 become very active. They eat a lot more chemical.
19 And then, when the bacteria's out of food, they die.
20 You know, the bacteria just subsides back into the
21 soil.

22 MS. BHAI: Okay.

23 MR. APPEL: There is a large number of
24 wells that are currently installed here that they get
25 sampled routinely to verify that that reductive

1 chlorination process is happening. And so if the
2 levels start to increase in that source material,
3 then a hot spot treatment is conducted again to add
4 more of that material to continue enhancing that
5 process.

6 So like Camille said, this is an
7 ongoing process of monitoring the groundwater and
8 then adding additional amendment if those levels
9 start to come back up.

10 MS. BHAI: Okay. But I'll go back to
11 my original question: Is that bacteria being
12 monitored in case it does not die off? That's my
13 original question.

14 MR. APPEL: No. Because that's not --
15 that's not typically what gets monitored. What gets
16 monitored is the contaminants of concern at this
17 site.

18 MS. BHAI: Okay. Thank you.

19 MR. HIGH: My name is Dwayne High. To
20 the northwest of SVE 2, the contours are very tight,
21 and I would think you would want to take a look at a
22 site to the northwest of that to see if you've got
23 something else going on up there. It's just a
24 comment that I had.

25 MS. HUENI: Okay, thank you. Okay.

1 We'll look at that. Thank you.

2 MR. WALTERS: Okay. Let's continue
3 on. We have a little more time here, if you have any
4 comments or concerns. It doesn't have to be
5 questions. If you want to make a statement about
6 this project, this site at this time this is your
7 chance, your opportunity to do that.

8 We haven't heard anything from anyone
9 back over there in that corner. Do y'all want to say
10 anything? Anything you want to add?

11 I knew there was a question over
12 there.

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I don't live
14 around here. I teach at Cypress Creek High School.
15 I've been there for 31 years.

16 And I'm just curious, is there anyone
17 here from CFISD? Oh, yes, okay. Thank you.

18 Marlene put it on Facebook, I
19 contacted my science coordinator, and once we got
20 verification that there was a meeting here tonight,
21 then it was supposed to be sent out, and I just
22 thought droves of environmental science teachers
23 would be here. And I'm sorry, but we will be on top
24 of it.

25 So you talked about communication.

1 And so do we communicate with the school district,
2 since we have three schools right in this zone? I
3 mean, are they getting extra little emails: Hey, did
4 any of you want to show up at this meeting and get
5 information? Okay.

6 The second thing is, since I'm a
7 classroom teacher, can I get a class set of
8 materials, please?

9 I asked first and I'm the only one
10 here, so...

11 MS. HUENI: Sure. If you want the
12 maps, you can take them too.

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Oh, my gosh.
14 I'm sorry. I know this is serious for all of you,
15 but I'm out there educating kids. I teach
16 environmental science, and I teach environmental
17 science out at Loan Star College also. So this is
18 huge for us to get involved in this.

19 I feel remiss that I have not been
20 involved. I am embarrassed that I am not aware of
21 what was right around the corner from me.

22 Second thing, I just went to a Water
23 Quality Meeting last week. A paper was produced, 40
24 years of wells studies in the Chicot and the other
25 two aquifers. So they have 700 wells they have

1 monitored over 40 years, and 30 from TCE-213
2 extensometers -- am I saying that right -- where they
3 measure the subsidence links.

4 The wells are there, can't we just
5 throw something down there and take a sample out? I
6 mean, the drilling has been done. It's interactive.
7 It's online. And there are papers there, so I was
8 wondering about something.

9 My two questions were links, are we
10 not linking to the Cy-Fair School District? And are
11 we not linking to USGS and TCEQ with their wells in
12 this area?

13 And thank you. Y'all heard the
14 promise, I get a class set.

15 MR. WALTERS: Thank you very much.
16 Our agency really supports environmental education,
17 and that's what you're talking about.

18 MS. HUENI: I think we'll look into
19 that about the schools, you know, make sure that it's
20 getting back to the right people at the high schools
21 and the area schools. Because if you have it, that
22 would be great because we're growing scientists too.

23 Thank you for your comments.

24 MR. COX: Colin Cox. I was just
25 curious if there are any plans to offer more

1 waterline hookups to anyone in that area?

2 MS. HUENI: Well, I think that's a
3 possibility. One of the things that we're going to
4 be doing also is looking at doing another
5 reevaluation of the status of the wells in the area.
6 Who's still using private wells? Who's hooked up?
7 Who isn't?

8 So that is under consideration, and we
9 can talk about that probably at the next groundwater
10 meeting when we have a little bit more information to
11 share.

12 Thank you.

13 MS. YOUNG: I keep forgetting. I have
14 two points, so I don't forget. One is, can I request
15 at least a minimum of two weeks' notice for a public
16 meeting?

17 MS. BONTA: That way we can rally
18 people and get them here.

19 MR. MEYER: So at the next meeting, we
20 can certainly give a two week notice.

21 MS. HUENI: I think maybe it's a good
22 idea to even have a pre-mailing, save the date, or
23 whatever, get that a little further out. So that's a
24 good idea.

25 MS. YOUNG: Great.

1 And my second point, the map that has
2 the delineation, the colors.

3 MS. HUENI: Yeah.

4 MS. YOUNG: Could you go back to that
5 one, please?

6 I haven't knowingly been to that exact
7 area. And I was just wondering if anyone can tell us
8 what's going on there because it looks like there's
9 been some digging or something like that that's gone
10 on, on the border of the green.

11 MS. HUENI: On the east side?

12 MS. YOUNG: Yeah. On the left side.

13 MS. HUENI: On the left side, yeah.
14 That's Ace Hardware. They own that property now.

15 MS. YOUNG: Is there any, like,
16 restriction? Because it kind of looks like there's
17 some digging, or I don't know if it's gravel.

18 MR. MEYER: It's a lay down yard.
19 It's gravel. They use it -- It's a lay down yard.
20 They'll put a firework stand over there during
21 fireworks time. They use it for storage. Things
22 like that.

23 MS. YOUNG: Okay. I just wanted to
24 make sure, with these kind of contaminants, they
25 weren't just over there digging.

1 MR. MEYER: No.

2 MS. YOUNG: Okay. Thank you.

3 MR. MEYER: No, and he's accommodating
4 for the work that gets done over there. Because
5 there's two wells located in that -- you see that far
6 one? That's actually on that property.

7 MS. YOUNG: Yeah, okay. Just wanted
8 to make sure nobody was over there digging it up.
9 Thanks.

10 MR. MUSTERS: Just a comment. When
11 this all got started and the neighborhood got
12 together and found out about what was going on here,
13 even before TCEQ got involved back in '02, we were
14 told at that time that it would take probably 20
15 years for this to get cleaned up. We all thought
16 that was absolutely insane.

17 Here we are, we're getting awful damn
18 close. I think it's unbelievable that it's taken
19 this long to get to this point.

20 MR. WALTERS: Okay. Are there any
21 more questions or comments?

22 MS. WOOD: Mary Wood. Whether or not
23 it's wells or are these septic by any chance? Is
24 that building on a septic, or is it on a city?

25 MS. HUENI: You know, they originally

1 were on septic because I think we just talked about
2 that this afternoon.

3 MS. LONG: I don't know on current,
4 but it used to be septic.

5 MS. WOOD: Is that monitored where the
6 drain lines were?

7 MS. LONG: There was -- oh, a number
8 of years ago we took soil samples that traversed
9 around the septic tank, the lines, and the leach
10 field. And that was in the real early reports that
11 we did on initial investigation.

12 And I -- you know, I can't -- It's
13 been a number of years. I can't recall the data, but
14 I know that we did explore that option as a potential
15 path line.

16 MS. LOBBERECHT: Marilyn Lobberecht.

17 Have the businesses been notified, and
18 has it been recorded? So that -- Businesses here are
19 torn down frequently and shopping centers, and then
20 we put up high rise businesses and hospitals and you
21 name it.

22 How is that being noted that that
23 property is contaminated, and that it may rebound?

24 And how are you protecting future
25 businesses and owners and homeowners?

1 MS. HUENI: Part of our process, and
2 we usual usually do this during the remedial action
3 phase when we're doing construction, sometimes
4 design, but one of the things that we like to do is
5 place what we call institutional controls for the
6 site, which can be anything from a deed notice to a
7 deed reformation that actually tells current, as well
8 as future property owners, what's on their property.

9 MS. BONTA: Pamela Bonta. So I walked
10 that strip plaza yesterday, and I talked to each and
11 every business owner. So those business owners
12 aren't the property owner. A lot of them did not
13 speak English well, and a couple of them were totally
14 unaware.

15 The Indian gentleman that owns the
16 shop directly over the site couldn't make this
17 meeting because he said he's the only one that works
18 there, and so he has to be in his store, and he can't
19 keep up with it. But most of them are just renting
20 that space, and I found that they really don't know
21 what's going on.

22 MS. HUENI: There's a property manager
23 on site too that helps us with that. But, you know,
24 we also went by the Indopak Store today and left the
25 flyer for the meeting. And I do think it's our

1 responsibility to go out and talk to the individual
2 property lessees, and we'll make sure that we do
3 that.

4 MS. BONTA: Yeah.

5 MS. HUENI: That's information
6 involved.

7 MS. DOUCET: I'm Marva Doucet, and I
8 live in the area but outside this red line. And I
9 would just like to request that my property be
10 tested, or I'd like to know if some property close to
11 me.

12 MS. HUENI: Okay.

13 MS. DOUCET: How deep were the wells
14 that were prohibited or that were connected to the
15 water supply? Do you know how deep that was?

16 MS. HUENI: Well, I think most of the
17 private wells were --

18 Do you remember, Marilyn? Were they
19 about 200 feet?

20 MS. LONG: There was a range. The
21 older wells -- I'm going by memory again too. The
22 older wells, you know some of the first residents
23 were relatively shallow, even some of them, I think,
24 less than 200 feet.

25 Then as folks moved in, and they

1 wanted a -- let's say, a continuous supply of water,
2 and not be affected, then they went in the 200- to
3 maybe the 300-foot range. Some of the wells that we
4 sampled, and private wells, we had some that were 375
5 feet, 425. That was relatively recent ones. But I
6 think between the 200 to 300 range would cover a
7 large representation of the wells.

8 MS. DOUCET: Thank you. Are you going
9 to have a sign-up sheet?

10 MS. HUENI: Yeah. Actually, when you
11 asked that question, I think we've gotten enough
12 questions from private water well owners, I'd like to
13 get your name and your contact information, so that
14 as we start going back and reassessing the private
15 wells, and that the ones who are here who are who are
16 requesting special information, that we get that
17 down.

18 MS. DOUCET: Well, I just wrote it on
19 the sign-up sheet that I requested.

20 MS. HUENI: You did? Okay.
21 How about y'all, did you?

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We can add it.

23 MS. HUENI: Thank you. Are we done
24 here?

25 MR. WALTERS: Yeah. We are going to

1 start wrapping up here. Does anyone have anything
2 else they'd like to say or state at this time before
3 we close up the meeting?

4 Do you want to go over again the
5 comments, Camille, the dates and how they can do
6 comments?

7 MS. HUENI: Okay. Just as a reminder,
8 the public comment period is from August the 7th
9 through September the 5th. It's a 30-day period. So
10 all comments need to have some kind of date mark or
11 be postmarked by that end date for them to be
12 incorporated in the comment response.

13 And you can do written comments if you
14 have the proposed plan or the facts sheet, the
15 contact information is there. Don's name is on it.
16 I think typically we send written comments to Don.
17 But also Raji Josiam will be the project manager, is
18 also listed as a contact for either written comments
19 or including emails. We know people like to do that
20 too.

21 Anyway, we look forward to getting
22 your comments or thoughts, and we will certainly
23 consider them.

24 MR. WALTERS: Okay. This concludes
25 the public meeting on the Jones Road Superfund site.

1 (Public meeting concluded at 8:07 p.m.)

2 THE STATE OF TEXAS)
3 COUNTY OF HARRIS)

4 REPORTER'S CERTIFICATION
5 PUBLIC MEETING, JONES ROAD SUPERFUND SITE

6
7 I, Kara Y. Dickinson, hereby certify that the
8 facts stated in the foregoing pages are true and
9 correct.

10

11 I further certify that I am neither counsel for,
12 related to, nor employed by any of the parties or
13 attorneys in this action, and further that I am not
14 financially or otherwise interested in the outcome of
15 the action.

16

17 GIVEN UNDER MY HAND on this the 10th day of
18 August, 2017.

19

20



21

22

23

24

25

Kara Y. Dickinson
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